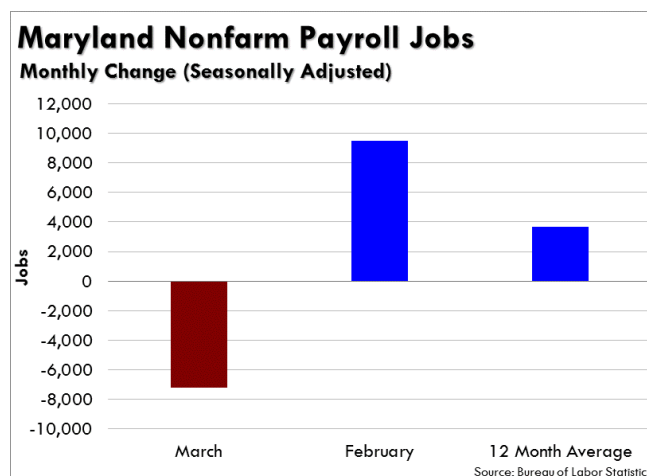
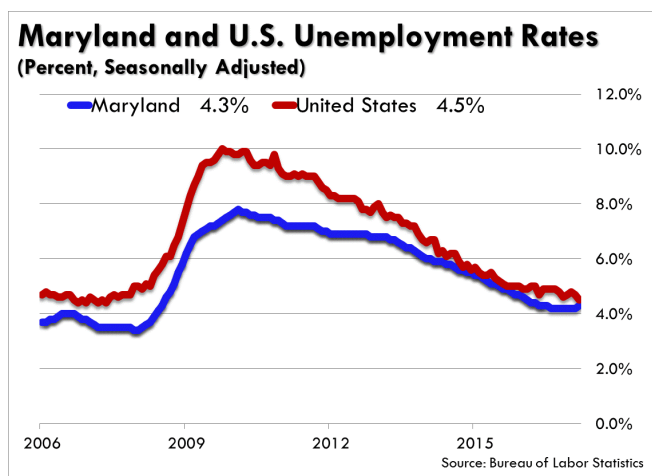


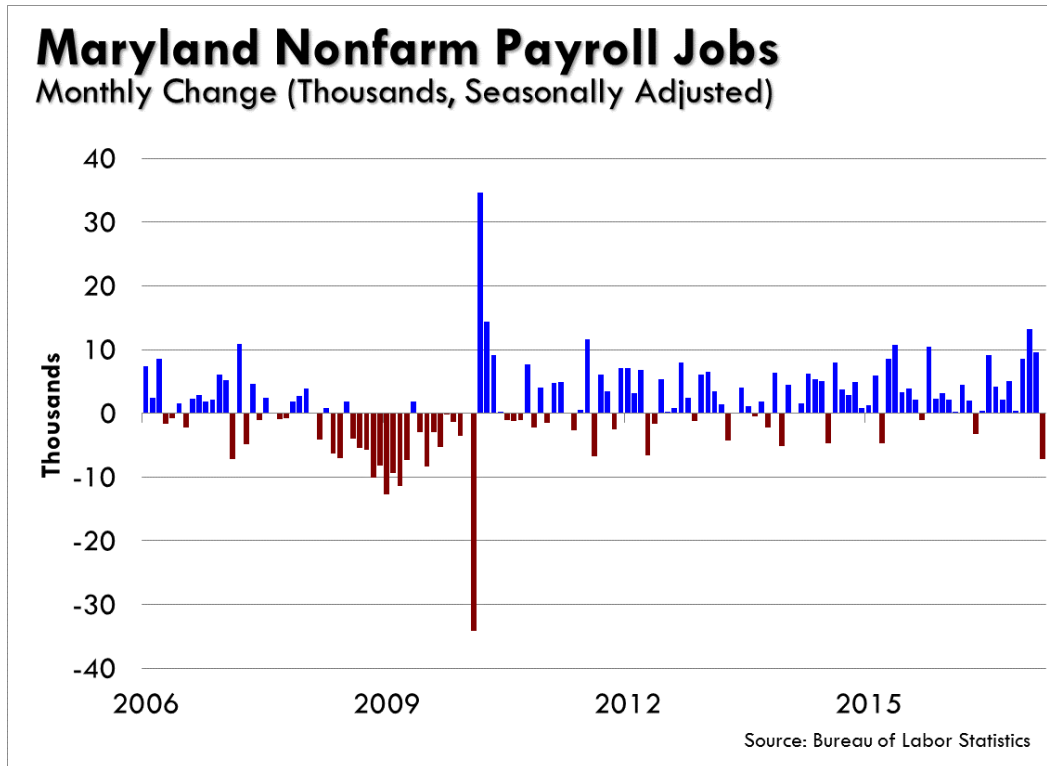


April 23, 2017

### Summary

- **Maryland lost 7,200 jobs and the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 4.3 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Maryland added 44,200 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point from 4.4 percent.
- **In March, Maryland's private sector lost 7,500 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 36,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Marylanders rose by 2,034 in March**, and over the past year 60,728 Marylanders found jobs.
- Maryland's **labor force participation rate increased to 67.9 percent** from 67.6 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.9 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





### **Maryland Payroll Employment**

Maryland lost 7,200 jobs, or 0.26 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Maryland added 9,500 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Maryland increased by 44,200, or 1.64 percent. Maryland nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 10 of the past 12 months.

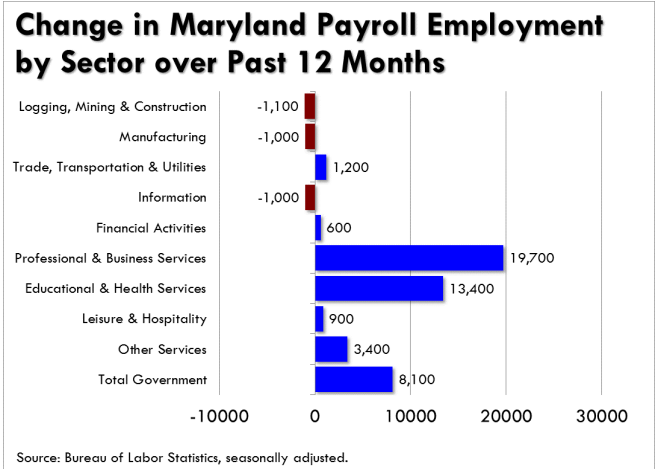
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Maryland ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Maryland's private-sector lost 7,500 jobs, or 0.33 percent. The private-sector in Maryland added 7,600 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Maryland increased by 36,100, or 1.64 percent. Maryland private-sector payroll employment has increased in 8 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Maryland ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Professional & Business Services (+2,000) and Educational & Health Services (+400). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Logging, Mining & Construction (-4,500) and Leisure & Hospitality (-2,700).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+19,700) and Educational & Health Services (+13,400). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Logging, Mining & Construction (-1,100), Manufacturing (-1,000), and Information (-1,000).



## Maryland Labor Force Statistics

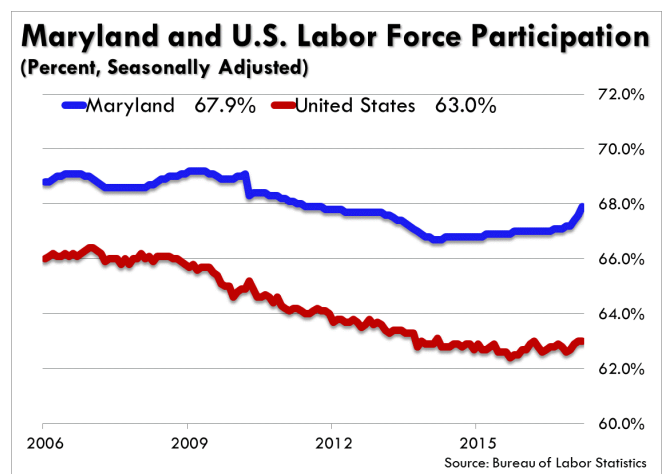
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in Maryland rose to 67.9 percent in March from 67.6 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 9 have a higher labor force participation rate than Maryland. The labor force participation rate in Maryland is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Maryland was 69.2 percent in May 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Maryland occurred in December 1989 when the labor force participation rate hit 71.4 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 66.7 percent in April 2014. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in June 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 64.3 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Maryland civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 65.0 percent in March from 64.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 11 have higher employment-to-



population ratios than Maryland. The employment-to-population ratio in Maryland is 1.0 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Maryland was 66.3 percent in February 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Maryland occurred in December 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 68.7 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 62.7 percent in January 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in September 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 60.0 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

